

child pornography in this state. It is a complicated bill. I would be pleased to attempt to answer questions any of you might have about the original bill or about the committee amendments. With that, Mr. Speaker, I would ask for the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: We'll be taking up Senator Higgins' amendments. But may I introduce a special guest, under the south balcony, of Senators Jerry Miller, Arlene Nelson and Shirley Marsh and she is Jan Prillewitz, head of division committees and interparliamentary delegations, European Parliament of Brussels. Would you please stand and be recognized. Sorry, Mr. Prillewitz, I introduced you as a lady and I see you are a gentleman. Thank you for visiting us.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Higgins would move to amend the committee amendments. Senator, this is the first amendment that you identified. It is on page 1543 of the Journal.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. This amendment to the committee amendments would put back into the bill the same identical statutes that we now have for penalties for child pornography. Currently, for the first offense, it is a Class III felony which has a one-year minimum, up to a 25-year maximum, or a \$25,000 fine, or both. The committee amendments would put no minimum and a maximum of five years for anyone who would have a child engaged in making pornographic movies or pictures. I don't think there is anyone here that thinks that we should lessen the penalties for child pornography from what the present statutes are. They are small enough as it is, or little enough as it is. So I would merely urge that the body adopt this amendment which puts back into the present statutes, it takes the present law and says first offense, Class III felony will have a one-year minimum, up to a 25-year maximum. Those with a second offense or any subsequent offenses, I would put it back into the present statutes of making it a Class II felony with a one-year minimum and a 50-year maximum. The committee amendments make it merely a 25-year maximum. I would urge the body to adopt this amendment to the committee amendments and keep the present penalties as they are for child pornography rather than lowering them.